unscramble an egg, they have acquired the capability and they are not going to throw it away. In view of the fact that the people of Pakistan are entirely with the people of India and that they do not want any confrontation in any area, may I know from the honourable Minister whether, ignoring this fact—ignoring in the sense of realising that they have full capability and they have full preparedness about it—there are not areas, unrelated to this, where you can have massive co-operation with Pakistan?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Sir, it is not just the people of Pakistan and the people of India who want friendship between the two countries. The House knows, and I will also reiterate, that the Government of India and the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, personally and his Government are committed from the very beginning of this Government to improve the relations and, in fact, to normalise relations with Pakistan. But then one cannot clap with one hand and so, we need response from the Government on the other side of the border. There are areas where co-operation is possible and in these areas we are working. There are areas in the cultural field, there are areas in the economic field and there are areas in the field of sports with which the honourable Member is connected and in these areas we are doing all that is possible to see that they from there contribute towards this process of friendship between the people of these two countries.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Chitta Basu.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Sir may I know from the honourable Minister whether it is not a fact that the United States has suggested having bilateral talks with Pakistan on the issue of nuclear weapons system? May I also know whether it is the perception of the Government that, with the waiver of the Symington Amendment with regard to Pakistan, the United States has a duality in approach and duality in character in relation to Pakistan and India and, if so, what are the comments of the Government of India with regard to this?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Sir, we are talking to the Pakistan Government at all levels from President Zia and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to the level of Foreign Secretaries, and the dialogue is going on. But I am afraid that the response from the Pakistani side has not been as sympathetic and as positive as we would like it to be, Sir. As far as the United States' Administration tilting towards Pakistan is concerned, the honourable Member is aware of the fact that Pakistan has been the only country against which the Symington Amendment has been invoked and the only country in regard to which a waiver of the Symington Amendment was sought by the United States' Administration and is being sought again. The Congress has not yet replied to this request and demand of the United States' Administration at this point of time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Next Question. Question No. 187. Mr. Khan.

Drug smuggling across Indo-Pak borders

*187. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY:

SHRI F. M. KHAN:†

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Pakistan have agreed to intensify efforts against drug smuggling and terrorist activities across their borders which had assumed serious proportions during the last couple of years; and

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House, by Shri F. M. Khan.

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The Home and Interior Secretaries of India and Pakistan respectively met in Lahore in December, 1986, in order to discuss and work out detailed measures to cooperate in controlling illicit crossing drug trafficking, smuggling and terrorism along the borders of the two countries. Pakistan affirmed its opposition to all forms of terrorism in Punjab and elsewhere and reiterated that it will not provide any support to terrorist activities directed against India. During the discussions it was decided to set up one Committee to combat narcotics trafficking and smuggling and another to evolve fresh border ground rules.

SHRI F. M. KHAN: I would like to know from the hon. Minister what is the cause for the people to take up drug trafficking? Is it unemployment in the bordering areas? Or is it a racket, international racket, which is employing these people to see that the people in both the countries do not have good health? I would like to know what is the number of arrests made and the number of people killed in the border areas where this drug peddling is going on?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Important questions have been raised by the hon. Member which I am sure the Health Ministry and the Ministry of Home Affairs will be in a far better position to reply.

SHRI F. M. KHAN: What is the number of people who were involved in drug peddling?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Home Ministry will know. The External Affairs Ministry will not know.

SHRI F. M. KHAN: Has any concrete result been produced by the meeting which was held in 1986?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: As far as drug trafficking is concerned, this is a very serious matter for us. I may just mention two: heroin and charas. As far as heroin is concerned, the quantity of heroin which we have seized here coming from Pakistan, has increased dramatically from 1985 to 1986. I may just give you the figures to give you the dimension of this problem. It was 544.400 kg. in 1985. It is 2207.835 kg. in 1986. Now, to give you the percentage of heroin coming from Pakistan in the context of the total quantity of heroin seized, I may say, Sir, that the total quantity of heroin seized in 1986 was 2536 kg., while heroin coming from Pakistan is 2207.839 kg. about 90 per cent of the total. Similarly, so far as charas is concerned, we seized 3972.512 kg. in 1985. In 1986 it was 9268.829 kg.

The dimension is very high. However, progress is being made. As far as drug trafficking is concerned, a dialogue between the two countries started with the Indo-Pakistan Joint Commission meetings held in Delhi between the 2nd and 5th of July, 1985. Subsequently, Sir, it was during the Home Secretaries' meeting held in December, 1986 at Lahore. It was decided to set up a committee led by the heads of the narcotics law enforcement agencies of the two countries. Subsequently,...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, you need not quote your whole brief.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: I will just complete. A meeting was held on the 26th and 27th of March, 1987.

SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Mr. Chairman, Sir a lot of smuggling is being done from Pakistan to India. In so many journals it has appeared that the money earned through this smuggling is paid to the terrorists

for their activities in India. This smuggling takes place in so many sectors — Punjab sector, Rajasthan sector, etc. I would like to know what is the incidence of smuggling in different sectors and which sector has been found to be most vulnerable? (b) What follow-up action has been taken after the two countries' negotiations held in 1986? (c) Has any joint machinery been set up to stop this menace?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Sir, as far as Pakistan border is concerned, the question of terrorism and drug trafficking have been found to be linked on several occasions. During the visit of the Home Secretary about which I have mentioned, both these questions were discussed and a machinery was evolved to deal with these matters.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: The hon. Minister of State has himself quite rightly pointed out that there is a nexus between smuggling, drug trafficking and terrorism. I would like to seek this clarification particularly in the context of my State of Rajasthan and my home district because we are deeply affected. It has social consequences also. This question against drug trafficking and terrorism was discussed at two levels, firstly at the level of SAARC and also during bilateral talks between India and Pakistan. I would like to seek two clarifications. Have you managed to arrive at an acceptable definition of terrorism? You cannot act against terrorism unless you have an acceptable definition of terrorism. Therefore, in SAARC or bilaterally in the Indo-Pak talks have you been able to arrive at an acceptable definition of terrorism? What is the joint Indo-Pak initiative suggested by either of the two countries against terrorism and drug trafficking? What is their present status as far as the actual implementation of those suggestions on the ground is concerned?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Terrorism is one of those concepts which everyone is able to identify, but no one is easily able to define. Therefore, the definition of terrorism is a complex one. Steps are being taken. In every meeting at SAARC and at other levels, these discussions are progressing. But so far as comprehensive definition which will satisfy everybody has not yet been found.

As far as the other question of the hon. Member regarding a machinery to deal with the problem of terrorism between the two countries is concerned, the Pakistan Government has been saying that they are not involved in the terrorist activities taking place in this country. A committee has been set up to look into this matter.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Despite the past assurances that terrorist activities across the border will be stopped and that it would look into every grievance raised by our Government from time to time, it is a matter of common knowledge that smuggling goes on unabated not only in the border areas but also to very far off areas. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what latest initiative has been taken to bring this point to the notice of the Pakistan Government.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Sir, these matters are being discussed all the time. As far as drug trafficking is concerned, we have had 3 rounds of talks already, in 1985, in 1986 and the latest in March, 1987.

श्री कैलाश पति मिश्र : सभापति महोदय, पाकिस्तान से शिकायत करते समय भारत सरकार ने कुछ निश्चित सूचना एकत्र कर ली होगी, ऐसी अपेक्षा है। क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि पाकिस्तान से शिकायत करते समय किन राष्ट्रों से ये ड्रग्ज भारत में आती हैं और किस प्रकार के साधनों के माध्यम से आती हैं, क्या इस प्रकार की कोई शिकायत की गई है ? मैं

जानना चाहता हूं कि ये ड्रग्ज किन रास्तों और साधनों में भारत में आता है?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: These complaints have been made and information has been given by the Home Secretary during the visits and meetings in Islamabad about which I have mentioned.

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Are you taking up the specific problem of narcotic syndicate operating in Pakistan in the bilateral talks?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Our Drugs and Narcotic Department and the officials are working on this matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 188 — Hon. Member not here.

*188. [*The questioner (Shri Basudeb Mohapatra) was absent for answer*, vide *Col.* 43-44 infra.]

Talks between India and Pakistan to normalise relations

*189. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) when the next round of talks for normalisation of relations with Pakistan are likely to be held;

(b) what will be the level and the venue of these talks; and

(c) what progress has been made so far for normalisation of relations and what constitutes the main impediment for a rapid improvement of our relations with Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Indo-Pakistan Foreign Secretary level talks on the normalisation of relations are scheduled to be held in New Delhi at a mutually convenient date.

(c) In accordance with India's desire for cordial and good-neighbourly ties with Pakistan, it has maintained a constant dialogue with the latter on the normalisation process. In this context, it is notable that at the Home Secretary level talks in December 1986 Pakistan reiterated that it would not provide any support to terrorist activities directed against India and it was decided to set up a Committee to combat narcotics trafficking and smuggling and another to evolve fresh border ground rules. The former has already met and the latter is expected to meet soon.

The normalisation process has, however, been hampered by several negative actions on the part of Pakistan such as its aggressive pursuit of a weapons oriented nuclear programme, scramble for sophisticated weapons, etc.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Political asylum to illegal aliens by U.S.A.

*181. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the U.S. Supreme Court's recent ruling relaxing the criteria for granting political asylum to illegal aliens; and

(b) if so, whether Government have examined the implications involved in the context of the acceleration in the migration of people from the country who may take advantage of the ruling in seeking asylum in the USA and if so, the manner in which Government propose to deal with the issue?